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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Research Station for Animal Diseases (Friedrich Loeffler Institute), Riems Island

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The Research Station for Animal Diseases (Forschungsanstalt fuer Tierseuchen), also known as the Friedrich Loeffler Institute, Riems Island near Greifswald, 25X1 is organizationally subordinate to the East German Academy of Agricultural Sciences[1].

2. Prof. Dr. Hans Roehrer, Director of the Research Station for Animal Diseases, is regarded by officials of the Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry and of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences as one of the top agricultural scientists in the DDR. Consequently, his institute receives adequate funds to carry out research as long as such research is part of the approved agricultural plan[2]. Roehrer is attempting to divorce all production of biological products from Riems Island so that he may use the institute only as a research center. In late 1954, Roehrer succeeded in gaining control of the VEB Serumwerke, Dessau, and VEB Serumwerke, Rottenau. These installations will be officially named Forschungsanstalt fuer Tierseuchen, [redacted] (Branch) Dessau, and Forschungsanstalt fuer Tierseuchen, [redacted] Rottenau. All production of foot and mouth disease vaccine and hyperimmune serum now carried out on Riems will be shifted to the Dessau branch, and crystal violet hog cholera vaccine will be produced at the Rottenau branch. Before this planned change can be effected, buildings must be constructed at Dessau and Rottenau. These will not be completed until late 1956.

3. Construction of laboratories continues on Greifswalder-Oie which is a part of the Research Station for Animal Diseases-Riems Island complex. Roehrer plans to utilize the laboratories on Oie for hog cholera virus research projects. The main institute on Riems Island will be used for research on foot and mouth disease, equine infectious anemia (Borna), swine erysipelas and tetanus.

4. Activities concerning production of veterinary biological products by the Research Station for Animal Diseases are not the concern of the East German Academy of Agricultural Sciences. Roehrer is responsible directly to the Ministry for

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Agriculture and Forestry for this phase of the activities of his institutes. On these matters he works directly with Dr. Reinhard (fnu), Chief of Veterinary Affairs, or with Prof. Dr. Lothar Kunsel, the Deputy Minister in charge of animal disease control activities.

5. Some of the aluminum hydroxide used at Riems Island and other stations in the production of adsorbed vaccines is imported [redacted] 25X1

In April and May 1955, Prof. Dr. Kunsel complained to the Minister for Agriculture and Forestry that anticipated shipments of aluminum hydroxide for these two months had not been received.

6. The East German Research Station for Animal Diseases is not exporting foot and mouth disease vaccine to Soviet Bloc countries. During the past year, however, the Station has supplied foot and mouth disease hyperimmune serum to Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Rumania.

1. [redacted] Comment.

2. [redacted] Comment. 25X1

3. [redacted] Comment. Dr. Reinhard is also Director of the Central Control Institute in East Berlin which is the veterinary biological quality control organ of the East German Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry. 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

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